

**KEELER TOWNSHIP
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
64151 TERRITORIAL RD. W.
HARTFORD, MI 49057**

MINUTES OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025

The Keeler Township Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor, Don Blackmond, at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call of members present: Trustee Carl Davis, Treasurer Sharon Clupper, Supervisor Don Blackmond, Clerk Angie Sexton, and Trustee Matthew Sexton. Five members were present constituting a quorum.

Matthew Sexton moved to approve the agenda as presented. Angie Sexton seconded, and all were in favor.

Public comment opened at 6:02 p.m. Jim Meersman asked if there was any approval needed from DNR or the state to receive a permit for a fireworks display on a lake. He was informed that permits are issued through EGLE. Upon hearing no public comments, the public comments closed at 6:03 p.m.

Application for Fireworks Permit Round and Big Crooked Lakes- The township received two Marine Special Event Applications and Permits. One application for Big Crooked Lake on July 5, 2025, beginning at 10 pm to 10:30 pm, depending on darkness, for a fireworks display on the lake. The other application for Round Lake on July 3, 2025, beginning at 10 pm to 10:30 pm, depending on darkness, for a fireworks display on the lake. The events are to be hosted by the same company that held the previous firework events. They have already submitted the applications to the state and received approval for both events. They have now submitted the applications to the township along with certificates of liability insurance for the events. Supervisor Blackmond sent the applications to both fire chiefs for review, and they have responded that they have no issue with approval of the events.

- Don Blackmond moved to accept the application for a Marine Special Event for a firework display on Big Crooked Lake on July 5, 2025. Matthew Sexton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- Don Blackmond moved to accept the application for a Marine Special Event for a firework display on Round Lake on July 3, 2025. Matthew Sexton seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Reid Management/Paint Medic- Keeler Township Fire Chief Don Bogart previously submitted an estimate of \$26,587 from Paint Medics to remove all the carpet from the kitchen at the fire department and prep in for epoxy on the floors as well as epoxy the fire department bay floors. The fire department is requesting the use of the remaining ARPA funds to complete the work. There is a 15-year guarantee on the epoxy flooring. A deposit of ½ down is required prior to the start of the work. Matt Sexton moved to approve \$26,587 to have the floors of the fire department done in epoxy from the remaining ARPA funding. Carl Davis seconded. A roll call vote of Davis- support, M. Sexton- support, Blackmond- support, Clupper- support, A. Sexton- support. Motion carried.

Township Parcels 80-12-031-045-00 & 80-12-170-067-10- Discussion was had on two parcels that the township owns and whether to investigate selling the parcels. The parcels cannot be used as boat ramps, for parking, or parks for access to the lakes. The township incurs the costs to maintain and the costs of liability. Blackmond does not believe that back lot properties have any access to the lot of which he is aware. It was suggested to have a preliminary title search done on the lots and seek counsels' input prior to offering the properties for sale. Matt Sexton moved to spend up to \$1,500 to have a title search done on the properties and to seek counsels' input on the selling of the properties. Don Blackmond seconded. A roll call vote of A. Sexton- support, Clupper- support, Davis- support, Blackmond- support, M. Sexton- support. Motion carried.

Transfer Site upgrades- Supervisor Blackmond went to a meeting with the Conservation District. The state is pushing for more recycling throughout Michigan. Keeler Townships transfer site is smaller than most townships and does not offer recycling besides the new tire program. The question is whether the township wants to expand to meet the needs of the township and offer more services. The township would need to expand the site but currently does not own any additional property at the site to expand. The Conservation District may know of some grants to help expand or cover the costs of operating expenses. Carl Davis felt the transfer site is fine the way it currently is and there is no need to expand or offer more services. The board asked Blackmond to inquire with the Conservation District if any

grants for funding to purchase land to expand the transfer site or for its operating expenses existed. The transfer site will continue to run at its current capacity.

The floor opened to public comment at 7:13 p.m. A few comments were made on the current transfer site's property size. Upon hearing no other comments, public comments closed at 7:16 p.m.

Motion by Don Blackmond to adjourn and second by Matthew Sexton. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Submitted by,

Angie Sexton, Clerk